

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 10, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Chairman Whitfield:

We, the members of the Safe Climate Caucus, are writing to challenge you and the other Republican members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to debate the nation's response to climate change on the House floor.

The Safe Climate Caucus is comprised of 25 members of the House who have made a commitment to talk every single day on the House floor that we are in session about the urgent need to address climate change. Every day, we have given speeches on topics relating to climate change, including the importance of preparing communities to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events, the potential for clean energy technologies, and the threats of rising temperatures across the country.

In contrast, we are not aware of any Republican member who has spoken on the House floor about the dangers of climate change or the need to reduce emissions and prepare for the impacts. In fact, no Republican member of the House has even said the words "climate change" on the House floor.

In the last Congress, the Republican-led House voted 53 times to block any action on climate change. Republican members voted to defund research, to block action by the EPA to control pollution, to prevent energy efficiency measures from going into effect, and to stop the

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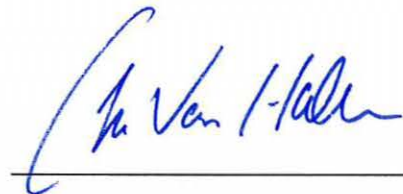
Administration from encouraging developing countries to do their part. This year, the Republican members of the Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the committee with jurisdiction over the nation's energy policy, even voted against holding hearings with scientists who could explain the role of climate change in causing extreme weather, drought, heat waves, and wildfires.

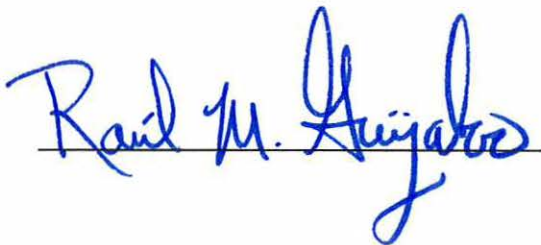
The Safe Climate Caucus banded together to end the conspiracy of silence in the House of Representatives about the dangers of climate change. But despite our continued and ongoing efforts to speak out on this issue on the House floor, no Republican member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee has shown up to explain why they refuse to accept the views of every scientific institution or to justify their inaction to future generations.

The American people expect their elected leaders to debate the pressing issues facing our nation. As the nation's leading scientists have told us, climate change is one of the most serious threats we and future generations will confront. We therefore ask you and your Republican colleagues on the Committee to debate us on the House floor about the dangers of climate change and the appropriate policy response.

Sincerely,









Candace B. Mabe

Patsy

Donna F. Edwards

Hank Johnson

Jim Means

Bobby & Wh

Babette

Lois Capper

Ruth Holt

Jane Holm

Doris O. Matsui

John Jaramendi

Paul D. Tonks

Ben R. Zujar

Kurt Olson

Edward J. Muey

Henry A. Waxman

Raul M. Grijalva

Carolyn B. Maloney

Donna F. Edwards

James P. Moran

Barbara Lee

Rush Holt

Doris O. Matsui

Paul D. Tonko

Keith Ellison

Chris Van Hollen

Earl Blumenauer

Peter Welch

Hank Johnson

Bobby L. Rush

Lois Capps

Jared Huffman

John Garamendi

Ben R. Lujan

Edward J. Markey